

## AMENDMENTS

Please make the following amendments:

### In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An automated slip puller apparatus comprising:
  - [[a)] a slip base located on a rotary table, wherein no portion of the slip base is outside of the boundary of the rotary table;
  - [[b)] a pulling mechanism pivotally attached to the slip base, the pulling mechanism comprising at least one bottom arm and a top arm, wherein the at least one bottom arm and the top arm exhibit a parallelogram geometry;
  - [[c)] slips connected to the pulling mechanism; and
  - [[d)] at least one cylinder connected to the pulling mechanism and operable to move the pulling mechanism between an activated and a deactivated position, wherein no portion of the at least one cylinder ~~[[or]]~~ and no portion of the pulling mechanism is outside of the boundary of the rotary table.
2. (Previously Presented) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 1, wherein the slip base is connected to the rotary table via kelly bushing receptacles.
3. (Original) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 1, wherein the slip base is connected to the rotary table via magnets.
4. (Original) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cylinder comprises a hydraulic cylinder.
5. (Original) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cylinder comprises a pneumatic cylinder.
6. (Previously Cancelled)
7. (Previously Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 1, wherein the pulling mechanism further comprises a pull arm connected to the at least one bottom arm and the top arm.
9. (Previously Presented) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 8, wherein the slips are suspended from an accommodating link connected to a pull arm extension, the pull arm extension being further connected to the pull arm.
10. (Previously Cancelled)
11. (Previously Presented) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one bottom arm and the top arm exhibit a parallelogram geometry both in the activated and deactivated position.
12. (Original) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 1, wherein the pulling mechanism is encased in a protective sheath.
13. (Original) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 1, wherein the apparatus is manipulated via remote control.
14. (Previously Presented) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 1, wherein no portion of the automated slip puller is outside the boundary of the rotary table when in the activated position.
15. (Previously Cancelled)
16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for manipulating tubular members comprising:
  - [[a)] a slip base attached to a rotary table, wherein no portion of the slip base is outside of the boundary of the rotary table;
  - [[b)] gripping means for engaging the tubular members,

[[c]] manipulating means for moving the gripping means between an activated and deactivated position, wherein no portion of the manipulating means is outside of the boundary of the rotary table; and

[[d]] connecting means, attached to the slip base, for connecting the gripping means to the manipulating means, the connecting means comprising at least one bottom arm and a top arm, wherein the at least one bottom arm and the top arm exhibit a parallelogram geometry.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the slip base is attached to the rotary table via the kelly bushing receptacles.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the slip base is connected to the rotary table via magnets.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the connecting means exhibits a parallelogram geometry both in the activated and deactivated position.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the connecting means and manipulating means are encased in a protective sheath.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the apparatus is manipulated via remote control.

22. (Previously Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a power slip apparatus comprising the steps of:

constructing a power slip apparatus comprising at least:

[[a]] a slip base located on a rotary table, wherein no portion of the slip base is outside of the boundary of the rotary table;

[[ (b) ]] a pulling mechanism pivotally attached to the slip base, comprising at least one bottom arm and a top arm, wherein the at least one bottom arm and the top arm exhibit a parallelogram geometry;

[[ (c) ]] slips connected to the pulling mechanism; and  
manipulating the pulling mechanism by means of a cylinder between an activated and a deactivated position, wherein no portion of the pulling mechanism ~~[[ or ]]~~ and no portion of the cylinder is outside of the boundary of the rotary table.

24. (Previously Cancelled)

25. (Previously Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the cylinder comprises a hydraulic cylinder.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the cylinder comprises a pneumatic cylinder.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the pulling mechanism is manipulated via remote control.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the pulling mechanism exhibits a parallelogram geometry both in the activated and deactivated position.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein no portion of the power slip apparatus is outside the boundary of the rotary table when in an activated position.

31. (New) An automated slip puller apparatus comprising:  
a slip base located on a rotary table, wherein no portion of the slip base is outside of the boundary of the rotary table;

a pulling mechanism pivotally attached to the slip base, the pulling mechanism comprising at least one bottom arm and a top arm, wherein the at least one bottom arm and the top arm exhibit a parallelogram geometry;  
slips connected to the pulling mechanism; and  
one or more springs connected to the pulling mechanism and operable to move the pulling mechanism between an activated and a deactivated position, wherein no portion of the one or more springs and no portion of the pulling mechanism is outside of the boundary of the rotary table.

32. (New) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 31, wherein the pulling mechanism further comprises a pull arm connected to the at least one bottom arm and the top arm.
33. (New) The automated slip puller apparatus of claim 32, wherein the slips are suspended from an accommodating link connected to a pull arm extension, the pull arm extension being further connected to the pull arm.